

Peabody Community House, Inc. #3
10 Holten Street

Peabody, Mass. June 1, 1917.

ANNUAL REPORT 1916-1917.

The Community House opened on a Boys' Day Nov. 14th, and closed on a Girls' Day June 1st. During that time 672 Boys and 585 Girls enrolled as members, and a total of 10,998 Boys and 10,885 Girls attending for the season. 7022 Boys enjoyed the use of the games and 12,665 Girls. 3,890 Boys patronized the shooting gallery.

The Community House has provided wholesome activities; also Educational Classes, not only for Boys and Girls, but for Ladies as well.

-GYMNASIUM- ✓

The gymnasium is the centre of the largest number of activities. Classes were held every afternoon for grammar school and High school Boys, and Evening classes for Employed Boys, and for Senior Boys over 18 years. The High School Track team used the gymnasium for practise, and the High School Baseball team had early indoor practise in the Spring.

Basketball has proven to be the most popular sport, competition with Salem Fraternity Teams have been enjoyed by our boys, also class games.

-GAMES ROOM-

The game room is the "Harbor of Fun" especially for the smaller boys and girls, each one trying to out do the other in lung capacity. To see and to hear these children at their play are two different things, one on seeing forgets about the noise and observes the happy laughing faces. Our games consist of Pool, Checkers, Caroms, Bean Bag, Picture Puzzles, Ring Toss, Dominoes, etc. Three Checker matches were played this winter, two with Lynn Boys' Club, and one with the Salem Fraternity.

-LIBRARY-

Every live boy and girl has some hero or heroine tucked away, that is their ideal. They may find it in everyday life or it possibly is in some book. Good wholesome books create clean thoughts and new companions for imitation. Mr. John E. Keefe, the City Librarian has been a great help in this respect of furnishing the House Library with good books. Number of Boys and Girls reading 5,220.

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-WOOD WORKING ROOM-

This class has been in existence only two months and has proven a great educational value. Especially to the boy who likes to make things with his hands. The School Board loaned the Community House ten benches and tools. This class should be very successful next winter.

-THE TRIAL BOARD-

This group consists of the older Boys of the House. It consists of two boy judges and one adult judge, clerk of the court, and three boy lawyers. The Supt. makes the house rules and the Trial Board enforces them. Much of the well deserved success of the Board is due to Judge Wm. H. Fay, Attorney E. A. Hershenson and Miss Marion Taylor.

-GIRLS ACTIVITIES-

CLASSES

Tatting, crocheting, knitting, plain sewing, paper flower making and clay modeling have been busy classes during the winter. The object of these classes is not to increase the number of instructors, but merely to teach girls how to be more useful in the homes.

-GYMNASIUM-

Three classes were held twice a week for Grammar School Girls, High School Girls and Employed Girls.

-FOLK DANCING-

Folk Dancing class met twice a week. The gratifying results of Folk Dance instruction were seen at the May Festival, where over 100 Boys and Girls took part, and five or six different nationalities gathered together to admire the entertainment.

-DRAMATICS-

Dramatics have taken form only in "amateurisms" during the social hour. This is a splendid outlet for imitations, and much more should be done in this direction next year.

One Self-Governing Club has been organized, the purpose being to discuss questions of the House, and to help discipline and to promote social activities.

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-SENIOR ACTIVITIES-

Four dances have been held by the young people, also an auto-bus ride and a feed. ✓

The Home Nursing class for Ladies under the direction of Mrs. H. S. Pomeroy enjoyed a very interesting course of ten lessons. ✓

The First Aid Class has proven a success from the start. The class numbers now 40 members. The class has had five lessons. ✓ Drs. Pomeroy, Foss & Jordan have given lectures.

-VOLUNTEER WORKERS-

The Supt. wished to take this opportunity to thank all of the workers, who with untiring efforts, and faithfulness, have helped to make this first year of the Community House a successful one, and it is with regret that I leave this work, the importance of which I believe is second to none in this Community.

Respectfully Submitted,

Signed, H. G. Van Norden,

Supt.

